



JOBS FOR THE FUTURE

## JFF SERVICES TO COMMUNITY COLLEGE CONSORTIA: THE NEW COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND CAREER TRAINING PROGRAM

**JOBS FOR THE FUTURE** offers community colleges a comprehensive range of well-tested, installable products and services to help develop, improve, grow, and sustain high-quality education and career training programs serving dislocated workers and adult students.

JFF helps consortia of community colleges design, restructure, enhance, and expand education and training pathways that enable low-income workers and jobseekers to obtain postsecondary technical and occupational credentials leading to high-quality employment. For consortia grantees of the new Community College and Career Training Grant Program, we offer capacity-building services in four areas:

### PROGRAM DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION

JFF provides expert technical assistance and planning and implementation tools that help community colleges create career pathway programs leading to stackable, industry-recognized credentials, feature significant employer engagement, accelerate learning and boost retention, and map to DOL/ETA's industry competency models.

### LABOR MARKET INFORMATION: ANALYTICS, TOOLS, AND TRAINING

JFF training packages and consultation programs use cutting-edge regional LMI analytics and technology-based tools to better align program curricula with core and specialist skills in high demand within sectors, expand outreach to employers for internships and job placements, and train career and college counselors.

### LEARNING NETWORKS

JFF builds capacity and knowledge of proven and promising career pathway strategies and practices across institutions through structured, facilitated, rich opportunities for peer learning and through the delivery of high-quality field research and documentation.

### FINANCING STRATEGY

JFF helps institutions, community college consortia, and state partners identify and align available funding streams that can support and sustain innovative career pathway programming.

#### EXPERIENCE AND LEADERSHIP

All capacity-building projects with community college consortia are led by a senior team from Jobs for the Future. JFF staff have significant depth and breadth of experience working with community colleges, state and regional postsecondary networks, regional workforce partnerships, state policy stakeholders, and employers to design and implement programs that propel lower-skilled adult students and jobseekers toward postsecondary credentials with immediate value in the labor market.

JFF brings over a decade of experience in designing, implementing, and supporting a range of initiatives that boost the postsecondary success of low-income community college students and promote access to high-demand careers. These initiatives include *Achieving the Dream*, *Breaking Through*, and *Jobs to Careers*. JFF offers specific expertise in career pathway program design, industry-postsecondary partnerships, employer engagement, professional development, peer learning, data analysis, financing strategies, and labor market information analytics.

#### SELECTED CLIENT WORK

- > *North Carolina Community College System*: Assistance with design, model fidelity, program documentation, peer learning, and career counselor training for colleges implementing technical-occupational pathways for adults and older youth
- > *Michigan Community College Association*: Assistance with design of the MCCA student success center and policy advocacy to increase state support for credential pathways targeting adult students
- > *South Texas College*: Model design, stakeholder facilitation, partnership development, and implementation support for health care and green construction pathways targeting lower-skilled adults
- > *Mississippi Office of Nursing Workforce*: Planning and implementation consulting for employer-community college partnership to create and expand pathways for frontline medical center workers, with an emphasis on work-based learning
- > *SkillWorks*: Strategic and financial planning, model development, research and documentation, peer learning, and advocacy support for a Boston-based workforce collaborative that expands career pathway opportunities for frontline workers in high-growth sectors
- > *American Association of Community Colleges*: Training, technical assistance, practice research, peer learning and evaluation services for 20 colleges linking with employers and economic developers

# SELECTED PROJECT ACTIVITIES:

## PROGRAM DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION

Installing program innovations and enhancements through in-depth coaching and technical assistance on:

- > Compressing course content to accelerate learning
- > Contextualizing academic curricula with occupational or industry-related content
- > Modularizing training programs into shorter “chunks” that meet employer skill needs and lead to stackable, industry-recognized credentials
- > Deepening employer engagement
- > Designing and accrediting work-based learning
- > Mapping career training to DOL/ETA industry competency models
- > Installing supports that boost degree completion by adult learners

## LEARNING NETWORKS

Building and sharing knowledge and best practices by:

- > Designing efficient, powerful peer learning convenings among consortium members
- > Facilitating cross-functional and job-alike working groups of college and career pathway staff
- > Delivering workshops, train-the-trainer sessions, and high-interest topical workshops based on the best available research on relevant models
- > Documenting and codifying effective practices, compiling and refining implementation tools, and producing case studies, issue papers, and practice briefs
- > Sharing consortium implementation experiences with DOL/ETA

## LABOR MARKET INFORMATION: ANALYTICS AND TOOLS

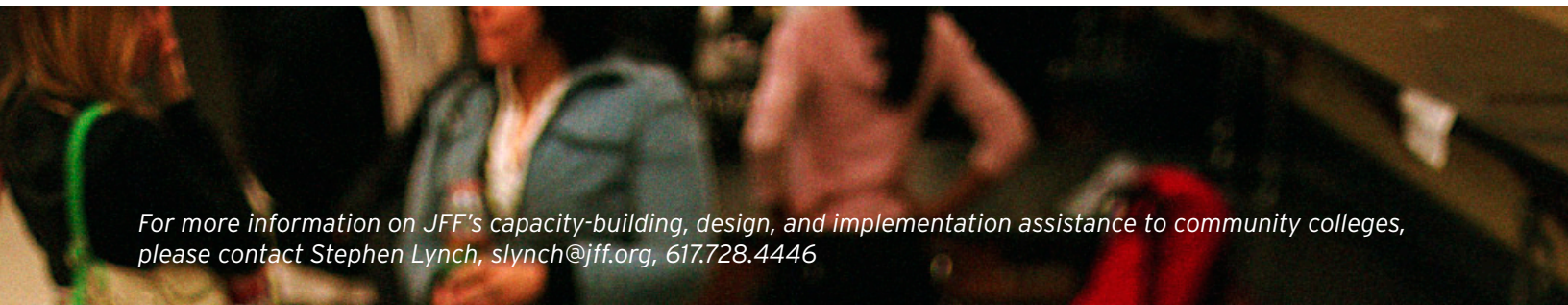
Boosting program effectiveness and outcomes through:

- > Labor market analyses using cutting-edge technology tools that synthesize real-time data from multiple job-related Web sites and sources
- > Consultation and tools to align pathway scope and sequence with up-to-date and detailed educational and skill requirements for jobs and careers that are in demand locally
- > College/career counselor training that enables all counselors to make use of sophisticated LMI tools to assess current labor market dynamics and opportunities and thereby increase completion rates and employment
- > Designing post-program performance systems and metrics

## FINANCING STRATEGY

Expanding the resource base through:

- > Asset mapping tools to develop sustainable financing models and plans
- > Well-tested strategies for bundling public and private resources
- > Policy development and advocacy to reallocate funding to support new models and promising practices



*For more information on JFF's capacity-building, design, and implementation assistance to community colleges, please contact Stephen Lynch, [slynch@jff.org](mailto:slynch@jff.org), 617.728.4446*

Jobs for the Future develops, implements and promotes new education and workforce strategies that help communities, states, and the nation compete in a global economy. In 200 communities in 41 states, JFF improves pathways leading to postsecondary education and training and family-sustaining careers. For more than 25 years, JFF has been a leader in helping the education and workforce sectors develop promising new models, expand the adoption of effective strategies, and advocate at the local, state, and national levels for supportive policy and funding.



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